

## Message Text

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R 211833Z JUN 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

CINCPACREP GUAM

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 133457

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AS, TQ

SUBJECT: TTPI -- AUSTRALIAN "LEADER GRANT" PROGRAM IN  
MICRONESIA

CINCPACREP PASS TO STATUS LNO SAIPAN AND HICOM

1. FOR CANBERRA. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF UNCLASSIFIED  
MESSAGE RECEIVED FROM DEPUTY HICOM, SAIPAN JUNE 18.  
QUOTE:

1. THE GOVT OF AUSTRALIA, THROUGH THE AUSTRALIAN HIGH  
COMMISSIONER TO NAURU, HAS OFFERED TO HAVE LEADING  
MICRONESIAN PERSONALITIES VISIT AUSTRALIA UNDER AUSPICES  
OF SPECIAL OVERSEAS VISITORS FUND (LETTER FROM HIGH  
COMMISSIONER SELLARS DATED JUNE 5 TO HICOM EDWARD  
JOHNSTON). WE UNDERSTAND THIS IS SIMILAR TO US STATE  
DEPT LEADER OR INTERNATIONAL VISITOR GRANT PROGRAM.  
SPECIFICALLY, AN INVITATION HAS BEEN EXTENDED TO CONGRESS  
OF MICRONESIA REPRESENTATIVE RESIO MOSES OF PONAPE  
DISTRICT TO VISIT AUSTRALIA UNDER SOVF (SPECIAL OVERSEAS  
VISITORS FUND) SOMETIME IN OCTOBER OR NOVEMBER.

2. INASMUCH AS WE PROPOSE TO RESPOND AFFIRMATIVELY TO  
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THIS OFFER, WE WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR VIEWS OR ANY

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS BEFORE WE RESPOND TO IT.

3. FOR LNO HONOLULU. PLEASE PASS TO HICOM JOHNSTON WHEN HE ARRIVES HONOLULU. END QUOTE.

SAIPAN HAS BEEN ADVISED THAT USG POSES NO OBJECTIONS TO PROPOSED AUSTRALIAN GRANT FOR CONGRESSMAN MOSES.

2. ON BASIS ABOVE GOA APPROACH, WE ASSUME GOA INTENDS EXTEND TO MICRONESIA AUSTRALIAN EQUIVALENT OF US "LEADER GRANT" PROGRAM. WE WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR DISCUSSING PROGRAM WITH FONOFF ALONG FOLLOWING LINES.

(A) CALL TO THEIR ATTENTION ABOVE SAIPAN MESSAGE AND CONFIRM WE HAVE NO OBJECTIONS TO GRANT FOR MOSES.

(B) REQUEST INFORMATION ON INTENDED SCOPE AND CHARACTER OF PROGRAM, I.E. NUMBERS OF GRANTEES ENVISAGED ON ANNUAL BASIS, TYPE OF ITINERARY THEY WOULD HAVE, CATEGORIES OF MICRONESIAN LEADERS GOA INTERESTED IN, AND ANY OTHER DETAILS FONOFF CAN OFFER. ALSO, WILL PROGRAM COVER GUAM AND AMERICAN SAMOA?

(C) SUGGEST IN LOW-KEY MANNER THAT IT WOULD BE MOST ADVANTAGEOUS TO GOA AND HELPFUL TO USG IF GOA WOULD CONSULT WITH USG INFORMALLY ON SELECTION OF FUTURE GRANTEES. EMPHASIZE THAT SUGGESTED CONSULTATIONS ARE NOT INTENDED TO IMPLY US WISH TO HAVE "VETO" AUTHORITY OVER SELECTION GRANTEES; RATHER WE WISH TO ASSIST GOA IN AVOIDING VERY REAL POLITICAL PITFALLS THAT EXIST DURING PRESENT SENSITIVE TRANSITION PERIOD TO SELF-GOVERNMENT. BEYOND THIS CONSIDERATION, GOA PROGRAM COULD BE ESPECIALLY HELPFUL IN BROADENING HORIZONS OF NUMBER OF MICRONESIAN LEADERS, BUT IMPACT HERE WILL DEPEND VERY GREATLY ON GRANTEE SELECTION, I.E. AVOIDING THOSE LEADERS WHO HAVE ALREADY TRAVELED EXTENSIVELY IN PACIFIC AREA UNDER OTHER PROGRAMS, OR IN CONNECTION VARIOUS REGIONAL CONFERENCES.

(D) SUGGEST THAT THIS CONSULTATIVE PROCESS CAN BEST BE CONFIDENTIAL

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HANDLED IN WASHINGTON (STATE: EA/ANP).

(E) IN DISCUSSING FOREGOING WITH FONOFF, MAKE CLEAR THAT WE WELCOME THIS GOA INITIATIVE AND BELIEVE THAT IT CAN BE SUPPORTIVE OF OUR OWN OBJECTIVES IN TTPI.

3. FYI. HAVING SAID FOREGOING, WE ARE SOMEWHAT DISTURBED THAT GOA CHOSE NOT TO CONSULT WITH US IN

ADVANCE OF LAUNCHING THIS PROGRAM WHICH, DEPENDING ON ITS SIZE, THRUST, AND SELECTION PROCESSES, COULD HAVE SOME IMPACT ON DELICATE MICRONESIAN POLITICAL SITUATION.

HOWEVER, WE ARE IN NO POSITION TO PROTEST GIVEN OUR ACTIVE CU PROGRAMS IN PAPUA NEW GUINEA GOING BACK TO MID-1960S. END FYI.

4. FOR STATUS LNO SAIPAN. SUGGEST YOU ALSO DISCUSS MATTER WITH AUSTRALIAN HICOM SELLARS (NAURU) DURING HIS FORTHCOMING VISIT TO SAIPAN, DRAWING ON PARA TWO ABOVE. YOU SHOULD ELABORATE ON POLITICAL SENSITIVITIES INVOLVED IN GRANTEE SELECTION, GIVING EMPHASIS TO NEED FOR BALANCE AND AVOIDANCE ANY APPEARANCE OF FAVORING GRANTEES WHO TEND TO EXTREMIST POLITICAL VIEWS. KISSINGER

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## Message Attributes

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